given by the Company and has terminated the licence. Recovery action has also been initiated by the AAI under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

(d) It is for the private airlines, including East West Airlines to take steps to overcome their financial and management problems.

Proposal for use of accumulated rule funds

1954. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian Vice Prime Minister during his recent visit to India had proposed the use of the Rupee Funds accumulated in its account for reinvestment in India and if so, the details of the proposal and area in which the proposed funds are to be utilised; and

(b) whether he has also invited Indian banks and other business organisations to set up their branches in Russia and if so, what is the reaction of Government of India in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) There is an in-principle understanding between India and Russia that a part of Rupee repayment funds owed by India to Russia can be used for Russian investment in joint ventures in India. However, a policy framework in this regard remains to be finalised. In his discussions in the Finance Ministry on October 29, 1996 the Russian Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Oleg Dayoov, expressed Russia's interest in early progress in this area. It was agreed that detailed discussions in this regard would be held between the two sides at the next session of the Indo Russia Joint Commission.

(b) The Russian Deputy Prime Minister emphasised the importance of setting up branches of Indian Banks in Russia so as to promote bilateral economic cooperation. Some Indian Banks are understood to be examing commencement of operations in Russia.

Medical facilities to the SC/ST/OBCs in remote Rural Areas

1955. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to provide medical facilities to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Backward Class people living in the remote rural areas; and

(b) the number of Primary/Health Centre, sub-Cantre and Community Health Centre running in Meghalaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) In the rural areas, medical services are provided through a network of health centres. The population norms for the establishment of these centres are as under:

	Hilly/Tribal Areas	Plain Areas
Sub Centres	3000	5000
Primary Health Centres	20000	30000
Community Health Centres	80000	120000

These Centres are established and maintained by the States under the State sector Minimum Needs Programme.

The States have been advised to set up at least 15% of the sub-centres in Scheduled Caste basties or villages having 20% or more scheduled caste population. The State Governments have also been advised to give additional relaxation for setting up of Sub Centres/Primary Health Centres in the case of scheduled caste basties which are 5 KMs away from the available Health and Family Welfare delivery points. A sub-centre should not be located more than 2 or 3 hours travel time from a tribal habitation.

(b) The details of these health centres as on 31.12.95 in Meghalaya is as under:

Sub-centres	333
PHCs	88
CHCs	10

Adhocism in the Ministry and its undertakings

1956. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether rampant adhocism seems to be the order of the day as most organisations under the administrative control of the Civil Aviation Ministry have several key posts still lying vacant as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 19th November, 1996;

(b) whether there is no full time head for Airport Authority of India and Director-General of Civil Aviation apart from both Air India and Indian Airlines and that three Member level posts are todate still vacant; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor indicating what action his Ministry has till date taken in this regard keeping in view (i) the recent mid-air collision of two aircrafts over Charkhi Dadri and (ii) the Purulia incident in the past?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir. Processing of appointments to Senior level posts in Public Secor Undertakings normally takes some time.

(b) and (c) The post of Chairman, Airports Authority of India fell vacant on 14.10.96 and the administrative Joint Secretary is holding charge till a regular incumbent is appointed. The Joint Director General of Civil Aviation is discharging the functions of Director General of Civil Aviation and the post will be filled in due course, in accordance with the recruitment rules. Both Air India and Indian Airlines have full-time Managing Director. Out of the four posts of full-time Members in the Airports Authority of India one has already been filled and proposals for appointment to other three posts are being processed. Neither the Purulia incident nor the recent mid-air collision near Delhi airport can be linked with the filling of these posts.

Awarding of Contract to A.V. Productions

1957. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a representative of A.V. Productions was awarded the contract for Audio-Visual presentations of meetings with Consultative Committee, Standing Committee with the Ministry;

(b) if so, the total amount paid to the representatives of the A.V. Productions during the last one year;

(c) whether the Air India's PR/Publicity department does not have the competency to make the said Audio-Visual presentations; and

(d) whether Air India's Finances permit such expenditure on account of awarding of such contracts for Audio-Visual presentation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) A.V. India and A.V. Consultants were awarded the job of producing the audio visual presentations by Air India.

(b) The total amount paid to this firm during November, 1995 to October, 1996 was about Rs. 9.00 lakhs.

(c) and (d) Air India is not equipped to make such presentations in-house.

Inefficient communications and response at Indian Airlines offices at Hyderabad

1958. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air passengers in Hyderabad feel the burden of inefficient communications and response at the Indian Airlines offices;